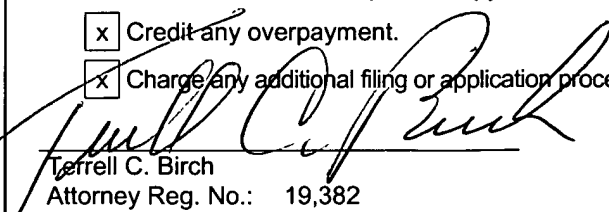




SPW

AMENDMENT TRANSMITTAL LETTER				Docket No. 0717-0523P	
Application No. 10/688,873-Conf. #9360		Filing Date October 21, 2003		Examiner L. Vinh	
				Art Unit 1765	
Applicant(s): Hideyuki KANZAWA					
Invention: Contact plug processing and a contact plug					
<b>MS Amendment</b> <b>Commissioner for Patents</b> <b>P.O. Box 1450</b> <b>Alexandria, VA 22313-1450</b>  Transmitted herewith is an amendment in the above-identified application. The fee has been calculated and is transmitted as shown below.					
<b>CLAIMS AS AMENDED</b>					
	Claims Remaining After Amendment	Highest Number Previously Paid	Number Extra Claims Present	Rate	
Total Claims	19	- 20 =		x	
Independent Claims	2	- 3 =		x	
Multiple Dependent Claims (check if applicable) <input type="checkbox"/>					
Other fee (please specify):					
<b>TOTAL ADDITIONAL FEE FOR THIS AMENDMENT:</b>					0.00
<input checked="" type="checkbox"/> Large Entity <input type="checkbox"/> Small Entity					
<input checked="" type="checkbox"/> No additional fee is required for this amendment.					
<input type="checkbox"/> Please charge Deposit Account No. _____ in the amount of \$ _____. A duplicate copy of this sheet is enclosed.					
<input type="checkbox"/> A check in the amount of \$ _____ is enclosed.					
<input type="checkbox"/> Payment by credit card. Form PTO-2038 is attached.					
<input checked="" type="checkbox"/> The Director is hereby authorized to charge and credit Deposit Account No. <u>02-2448</u> as described below. A duplicate copy of this sheet is enclosed.					
<input checked="" type="checkbox"/> Credit any overpayment.					
<input checked="" type="checkbox"/> Charge any additional filing or application processing fees required under 37 CFR 1.16 and 1.17.					
 Terrell C. Birch Attorney Reg. No.: 19,382				Dated: <u>March 14, 2006</u>	
BIRCH, STEWART, KOLASCH & BIRCH, LLP 8110 Gatehouse Road Suite 100 East P.O. Box 747 Falls Church, Virginia 22040-0747 (703) 205-8000					



Docket No.: 0717-0523P  
(PATENT)

**IN THE UNITED STATES PATENT AND TRADEMARK OFFICE**

In re Patent Application of:  
Hideyuki KANZAWA

Application No.: 10/688,873

Confirmation No.: 9360

Filed: October 21, 2003

Art Unit: 1765

For: Contact plug processing and a contact plug

Examiner: L. Vinh

**AMENDMENT IN RESPONSE TO NON-FINAL OFFICE ACTION**

**MS Amendment**

Commissioner for Patents

P.O. Box 1450

Alexandria, VA 22313-1450

Sir:

**INTRODUCTORY COMMENTS**

In response to the Office Action dated December 15, 2005, please amend the above-identified U.S. patent application as follows:

**Amendments to the Claims** are reflected in the listing of claims which begins on page 2 of this paper.

**Remarks/Arguments** begin on page 6 of this paper.